AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please replace the claims, including all prior versions, with the listing of claims found below.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for improving the quality of an audio transmission, comprising:

asynchronously transmitting audio data including samples of an audio signal in data packets from a transmitting communication system via a packet-oriented communication network to a receiving communication system; and

detecting an information item relating to the transmission of data packets; and

converting the audio data such that their sampling rate is altered by [[of]] digital filtering, wherein

the sampling rate being altered based on the detected information item, in such a manner that due to the altered sampling rate, a quality of service of the audio transmission is optimized with regard to a current transmission situation indicated by the detected information item, [[and]]

the transmission of the data packets is monitored by the receiving communication system and an information item relating to this transmission is transmitted to the transmitting communication system and the audio data are converted by the transmitting communication system based on the information item transmitted, and

the received audio data are converted after having been read out of an input buffer provided for compensating data packet delay variations, in which the read-out speed of the input buffer is controlled by a change in an audio data rate due to the conversion.

2. (previously presented) A method for improving the quality of an audio transmission, comprising:

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asynchronously transmitting audio data including samples of an audio signal in data packets from a transmitting communication system via a packet-oriented communication network to a receiving communication system;

detecting an information item relating to the transmission of data packets; and

digitally converting audio data such that the duration of an audio signal represented by the audio data is modified while retaining a pitch of the audio signal, wherein

the duration being modified based on the detected information item, in such a manner that due to the modified duration, a quality of service of the audio transmission is optimized with regard to a current transmission situation indicated by the detected information item, and

the transmission of the data packets is monitored by the receiving communication system and an information item relating to this transmission is transmitted to the transmitting communication system and the audio data are converted by the transmitting communication system based on the information item transmitted.

3. (canceled)

4. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the audio data to be transmitted are converted by the transmitting communication system and a conversion message about the conversion is transmitted from the transmitting communication system to the receiving communication system.

5. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the transmitted audio data are reconverted by the receiving communication system, the change in the audio data taking place in the reconversion being determined by means of the conversion message transmitted.

6. (canceled)

7. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim [[6]] 1, wherein the information item transmitted specifies a data packet loss rate and, if the data packet loss rate rises, the audio data are converted by the transmitting communication system in such a manner that the audio data rate is reduced.

8. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a detected incorrect adaptation of the data rate of the received audio data is at least partially compensated by the receiving communication system by means of a conversion of the received audio data.

9.   (canceled)

10. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein in the case of a loss of one of the data packets, the audio data included in the data packet preceding and/or following the lost data packet are converted by the receiving communication system such that the duration of an audio signal represented by the audio data is extended, in such a manner that the extension of the duration at least shortens a gap in the audio signal due to the lost data packet.

11.. (currently amended) A communication system for transmitting and/or receiving audio data including samples of an audio signal via a packet-oriented communication network, comprising:

a monitoring unit for detecting an information item relating to the transmission of data packets including audio data;

a digital sampling rate conversion device for converting the audio data by altering their sampling rate; and

a control unit for controlling the sampling rate alteration based on the information item detected, wherein

the transmission of the data packets is monitored by [[the]] a receiving communication system and an information item relating to [[this]] the transmission is transmitted to [[the]] a transmitting communication system and the audio data are converted by the transmitting communication system based on the information item transmitted, and

the received audio data are converted after having been read out of an input buffer provided for compensating data packet delay variations, in which the read-out speed of the input buffer is controlled by a change in an audio data rate due to the conversion.

12. (currently amended) A communication system for transmitting and/or receiving audio data including samples of an audio signal via a packet-oriented communication network, comprising:

a monitoring unit for detecting an information item relating to the transmission of data packets containing audio data;

a digital timescale conversion device for converting the audio data by changing the duration of an audio signal represented by the audio data while retaining a pitch of the audio signal and

a control unit for controlling the change in duration based on the information item detected, wherein

the transmission of the data packets is monitored by [[the]] a receiving communication system and an information item relating to [[this]] the transmission is transmitted to [[the]] a transmitting communication system and the audio data are converted by the transmitting communication system based on the information item transmitted.

13. (canceled)

14. (previously presented) The communication system as claimed in claim 11, wherein the digital sampling rate conversion device exhibits a digital filter chip for converting the audio data.

15. (previously presented) The communication system as claimed in claim 12, wherein the digital timescale conversion device exhibits a digital signal processor for converting the audio data.